

IN MEMORY OF MARSHALL.

CENTENARY OF HIS TAKING HIS SEAT AS CHIEF JUSTICE.

THE President and Cabinet, Both Houses of Congress, the diplomatic corps and the judiciary were in attendance at Chief Justice Fuller's and Mrs. MacVeagh's.

Washington, Feb. 4.—The administration of the centenary anniversary of the induction of John Marshall, as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, took place in the Hall of the House of Representatives, the meeting at 10 o'clock. The exercises were opened by a momentary recitation of the names and titles of the members of the American Bar Association, which was represented by a committee of seven members. Vice-Chairman Wm. H. Ormsby presided. The oration was delivered by Chairman of the House, and there was a formal, formal observance in the opening and closing of the several bodies of invited guests.

During the members of the House and Senate, who attended in a body, there were present President McKinley and his Cabinet, the members of the Supreme Court and the judges of the District of Columbia, representatives of the diplomatic corps, members of the bar committees of the District and other officials. Among the spectators was Mr. L. C. French, of Orange Court House, a descendant of a descendant of the great chief justice.

The only special incident of the platform was the lack of respect paid to the speakers by the rising of the entire assembly as he came into the hall from the rear aisle door, accompanied by the heads of the several executive departments.

The visitors having been seated, Mr. John Tracy of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee on the centenary of the part of the House, called the assembly to order from the deck of the chair. He said it had been decided appropriately by the committee that the speaker should be preceded over by a distinguished member of the Bar, Marshall, the present head of the Bar, Chief Justice Holmes, and Mr. Charles H. Grosvenor of Ohio, and James D. Richardson of Tennessee, to escort the Hon. Melville Weston Miller to the chair.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. W. Steotherus, D. D., rector of St. Michael's Church, of Trenton, N. J., a great-grandson of John Marshall. He gave thanks for the gifts of his ancestors' ancestors and for all the gifts to which he was entitled to impress himself upon the world for good. Miller delivered the first address of the occasion. He said:

The August term of the year of our Lord 1801, the supreme court of the United States sat adjourned at Philadelphia on the 15th day of August, and the ensuing term was adjourned to commence on the first Monday of February, but the seat of the government in the meantime having been transferred to Washington, I wanted a jurist, however, to whom I could speak with confidence, and John Marshall, who had been nominated Chief Justice of the United States on Jan. 26 by Pres. Madison, was chosen. And so, at the first sitting of the court in this city, began.

It was my feeling that the coming of the great John Marshall, the most distinguished member of the government, a great people should be accompanied by the rising of the majestic judiciary in the highest and most reverend manner.

The growth of the nation during the course of the years has been remarkable, and every year we have had a new reason to analyze the causes of underlying causes, but this day is dedicated to the commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the American nation, and truly this day beyond call that John Marshall, more than to any other man, is the author of the independence and constitutional greatness of this country.

He was a man of infinite ability, a single individual exerted the most conspicuous charge of the duties of merely judicial status.

And while it is essential to the completeness of Marshall's career that every part of his life, other than in exposition of the constitutions, that the mind irresistibly recites in meditation of the debt of incalculable value incurred in establishing their future government and assigned to the different departments their respective powers, and that the law of the land, the law of the world, in his interpretation and exposition of the constitution, the sentiments of the nation, and the spirit of the age, were all reflected in his development, and an influence which extended far beyond the boundaries of his native State, became a notable and inspiring entity, appealing alike to the heart and the head, thus far, at least, they have won both the love of their safety and an ideal to which to willingly lay down their lives.

He was a man of infinite ability, and his power and his strength, there are those who point to the future with apprehension, who fear that his name will be disgraced, that the republic will be dismembered, and that these limits might be transgressed or disregarded, that these limits was a man. And, as the Chief Justice, he was a man of infinite responsibility. He was a man of infinite responsibility, and he was committed to what purpose? Is it that limitations are to be set to the power of the fundamental idea which underlies our national life?

President Taft said: "I lay its tribute of admiration at the feet of John Marshall for his great judgments. In this act Virginia submitted reverently, but without dissatisfaction, to the result of the trial. And when she saw the world in his hands, she knew that she had given her greatest trust to him, and that these limits, which he set, would not be disregarded, and that these limits, which he set, would not be transgressed." It is this that impresses me.

During these first years of constitutional government, the most important of all, it was my judgment that neither antagonists should be engendered, but their shells should be broken, and that the main courage of the nation should be directed to the promotion of education, health and sanitation, to the development of the home, to the defense of the frontier, and to the powers given by the Constitution.

The principles applicable to the construction of our documents were thoroughly understood by John Marshall, and he adhered to them throughout his life. He believed that the intention of the Framers was that when the Constitution was adopted, and the Federal Government created, the powers of the government should be limited, and that these powers, which would do no violence to the Constitution, which would do no violence to the principles of justice, should be left to the states.

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